



*Working together for Ohio farmers to advance agriculture and strengthen our communities.*

February 4, 2020

The Honorable Derek Merrin, Chair  
House Ways and Means Committee  
Ohio House of Representatives  
77 S. High St.  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chair Merrin,

Ohio Farm Bureau's mission is to work together for Ohio farmers to advance agriculture and strengthen our communities. Creating an incentive to use high-ethanol blend (E15) is very much in line with that motto as ethanol has helped to reduce our country's dependence on foreign crude oil, reduced air pollution, increased farm incomes, and provided good-paying jobs throughout rural America.

Ohio ranks 7th in the U.S. in ethanol production with an annual production capacity of 630 million gallons. At a time when our farmers are facing unprecedented challenges from trade wars, planting issues, and low commodity prices, a tax incentive would certainly boost demand and aide Ohio corn growers.

In addition to the benefits for farmers, this legislation will likely decrease the cost of gasoline at the pump and allow Ohio's retailers to compete with other states who have already embraced high-ethanol blend. E15 is a sustainable biofuel that can help reduce air pollutants and improve overall air quality. Farm Bureau supports HB 400, and we thank Rep. McClain for sponsoring this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenna J. Beadle".

Jenna Beadle  
Director of State Policy  
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Cc: Rep. Riordan McClain  
Pat Tully  
Stephan Shehy